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MEMORANDUM FOR: Intelligence Division, OSA

SUBJECT:

NPIC SAM Search of BLACK SHIELD Penetration

Routes

1. Several months ago NPIC requested that they receive OXCART Penetration Routes not later than H-24 in order to conduct a thorough route search for new SAM sites, and forward the results of their study in time for the GO-NO-GO Briefing at Project Headquarters. Under the current concept of operations for Project BLACK SHIELD, the final approved Penetration Route will not be available for transmission to NPIC until H-16. The results of the route search must be received at Project Headquarters Intelligence Division not later than H-3 in order to brief the Commander at the H-2 GO-NO-GO Briefing. This results in approximately thirteen hours available for NPIC to complete their actions.

2. If NPIC is unable to complete route search in thirteen hours, the following alternate proposal is suggested:

At approximately H-24, the initial computer run of the proposed Penetration Route will be completed. On a risk basis, this route can be transmitted to NPIC at H-24, with the understanding that minor changes to the route may be made as a result of the Commander's Route Briefing. These minor changes will not be available to NPIC until H-16½. Generally, we do not expect any changes to the H-24 Computer run; however, on occasion this will happen. Assuming NPIC receives the Penetration Route at H-24 via (1004 Data Link Transmission), and replies at H-3 via KW-26 message, they will have approximately 21 hours to complete a SAM route search 50NM either side of Penetration Route.

3. Request Intelligence Division coordinate this problem with NPIC and forward decision not later than 29 October 1965.

Chief OXCART Division, OSA

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